



SOMERSET TOWN JOURNAL



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Brown Bag Lunch

Our **third 2012 quarterly Brown Bag Lunch** will be held **Friday, July 27 from noon to 1:00 p.m.** at the **Town Hall**. This will be a great *midsummer's* opportunity to be updated on happenings around Town, and find out everyone's plans for the getaway month of **August**. All in Somerset are invited, of course, and the room has been pretty full for the first two this year. As always, please bring a *sandwich* or *dish* to share. *Setups, napkins, and beverages* will be provided. Any questions, call **Mayor Slavin** at **301-657-2229**.

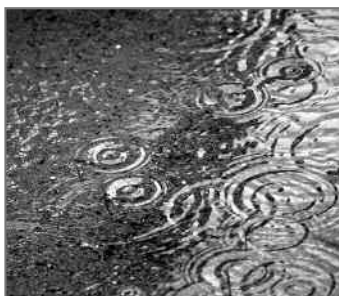
its **June meeting**, which is currently being reviewed by the **Town Attorney**. The ordinance will be formally introduced at the **July meeting** with the expectation of action being taken in **September**. The intervening two months will provide residents a chance to *review* the proposal and provide input.

The current draft (as submitted at the June meeting) is available at the Environmental Committee website, www.townofsomerset.com/environment, under "**Stormwater**". The Committee welcomes comments and feedback, which may be sent to me at george.wyeth@verizon.net, or to the **Town Manager** at manager@townofsomerset.com.

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Stormwater Management Plan For Home Replacement Or Remodeling

By George Wyeth, Chair, Environmental Committee



Stormwater Management Plan.

At the **February** Town Council meeting, the **Environmental Committee** was asked to develop a **stormwater management plan** for Somerset. **Stormwater runoff** is a major contributor to *degradation* of local streams and rivers, and a frequent source of *friction* among residents when *runoff patterns* are changed.

While the plan the committee is developing may include elements such as guides for **homeowners** and **construction of structures** to control runoff, the Council's greatest interest is in an ordinance that would provide *clear guidance* to homeowners and the Council. The Council frequently faces issues about potential runoff issues when considering **building permits**, but currently does not have a specific ordinance to turn to.

The committee has drafted an ordinance, using the ordinance currently in effect in the Town of **Chevy Chase** as a model. A draft was provided to the Council at

Calendar

Monday, July 2

Town Council Meeting

Wednesday, July 4

Fourth of July Celebration

Monday, July 23

MVA Mobile Office

Friday, July 27

Brown Bag Lunch

Don't forget to check the Town website throughout the month for an up-to-date calendar. Go to www.townofsomerset.com and click on **Town Calendar**.

The Preliminary Agenda for each month's Town Council meeting is posted on the Town website (www.townofsomerset.com) seven days prior to the meeting. A copy is also posted on the bulletin board on the Town Hall porch.



On My Mind

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

Multi-generational Musings

In the past five years or so, I have attended every **Welcoming Party** in Town and been able to notice firsthand the *changing* demographics. We have had about a **5 percent** annual turnover, and most of the **sold houses** contain *new families* with young children, and even babies. In contrast, the **sellers** are more than likely to be *residents* who have been here for years and have finished raising their offspring long ago. Many are grandparents and even great-grandparents.

But even when our valued longtime citizens move, many of them *never* really leave Somerset. They continue to **stay in touch** and *socialize* with their former neighbors and friends, and visit often. I was reminded of this phenomenon recently with the passing of the popular **Maury Atkin**, formerly of **Uppingham Street**, in his **mid 90s** but still *vibrant* until almost the end, and someone who loved our municipality and had many Town friends. There is much for us to learn from individuals like Maury, and from their invaluable contributions to the *sense of community* that we all want and need. Many of his contemporaries who remain here, a number of whom are accomplished **artists**, add to this asset. And how exciting that one of the co-authors of the lyrics of our new anthem is Mayor Emeritus **Walter Behr**, one of Somerset's most senior residents.

We still have a significant number of folks who are *"aging in place"*; whose children are grown, and who more than likely have become active grandparents. We are blessed to have this group, because so many of them *energize* the Town government and all its related activities, not to mention **social, political, and nonprofit** groups in the area.

Of course, the core group now is the *younger families*, who have **school activities, Swim Team, Pool events**, and the like to occupy their time and bring us all together. They add lots of *new energy* and ideas for the rest of us.

Let's savor the **multiple generations** here, and *celebrate* our **age diversity**. Let's be mindful and respectful of the perspectives the different generations bring, and learn from all of it. *I am glad that Somerset is attractive to young and old.*



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Monday thru Friday

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Fax: 301-657-2773

TTY users call Maryland Relay

Maxine Finkelstein, Editor

Deadline for ads and copy is the 15th of the month at 4:30 p.m.

Sidewalk Development For East Side Of Wisconsin Avenue

By Barbara Zeughauser, Council Member

The **State Highway Administration** (SHA) is proposing to build a *sidewalk* on the east side of **Wisconsin Avenue** in **Chevy Chase** between **Grafton**



Sidewalk Development

Street and **Bradley Lane** (also known as the “*Green Mile*”). As reported in “*The Patch*,” there is

funding for the project through the **Federal Highway Administration** (FHA) because the FHA believes the project has the potential to better serve handicapped individuals.

On **June 3**, our adjacent neighbor, the community of **Chevy Chase West**, sent letters to local politicians requesting *support* of the project and suggested the sidewalk *should be built*, as it will address a number of *safety concerns* for some **1200** neighboring households. More recently, however, we have heard that the enthusiasm for the sidewalk in CCW may be waning.

This project has been discussed by our **Parks and Natural Resources Committee** (PNRC); I serve as the **Council liaison** to the PNRC.

According the plan SHA presented at the **April 26** public meeting, building a sidewalk on the **Green Mile**, would mean taking down more than **50** trees. **State officials** said the sidewalk would occupy *eight feet* of space, leaving a *two-foot* curb strip for grass. Since the State requires a *six-foot* buffer zone between the sidewalk and the street, for trees to be planted, a *two-foot*

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Council Items Alert:

Proposed Wisconsin Avenue Sidewalks, County Council Pepco Bill, And Accessory Apartments Need Resident Comments

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

I have placed three items on the **Council’s July Agenda** for consideration of support that need input from our residents. Those interested should go to the **Town’s website** where they can find lots of useful information on each topic. After educating yourselves, please *write* the Council a letter or email expressing your views on each or all of the topics.

- **Proposed Wisconsin Avenue Sidewalks**

The **State Highway Administration** is planning to build a sidewalk on the east side of **Wisconsin Avenue** from **Chevy Chase Village** to **Bradley Lane**. While the *final design* is not available as of this writing, what is currently on the table would necessitate the removal of somewhere between **50** and **120 trees**. Our neighbors to the north in **Chevy Chase West** support the idea, as do many advocacy groups for *pedestrian* and *bike safety*. The **Little Falls Watershed Alliance** is opposed. We have heard that the potential start date for this project is early in **2013**, so hopefully we will be able to have some *influence* on the design, *number of trees removed* and/or whether the project is *undertaken or not*. Residents who have strong views on this issue are urged to contact our **State Senator** and **Delegates** immediately.

- **County Council Pepco Bill**

In response to the requests many of us have made to the **County Council** to do something about the *unacceptable* number of trees that have been *aggressively* trimmed, and to *reduce* the number of power failures in recent years, Council President **Roger Berliner** (who represents our **District 1**) and At Large Councilmember **Marc Elrich**, have introduced **Bill 16-12, Trees – Utility Vegetation Management**, which would require certain utilities, like **Pepco**, to provide *tree management plans*, improve notice when trees would be *removed* and *increase fines* where necessary, thus affording greater protection for the **County’s tree canopy**. This bill is slightly complicated and parts of it have been questioned by the **County Attorney**. Bill 16-12 has been subject to one public hearing, and it is my understanding will be voted on by the Council sometime in **July**.

- **Accessory Apartments**

There is a movement in the **County** to *relax* the standards for **accessory apartments**, which could lead to more such units in Somerset without due process. The **Planning Board** is considering a **Zoning Text Amendment** (ZTA), which would *allow* more small, attached access apartments *without* public notice and hearing and make it *much easier* to obtain a permit for detached accessory apartments. Eventually this ZTA will come to the County Council, at which point our input will be necessary and vital. It is important that we ensure adequate **public participation** in these decisions so that the *impact* additional housing units in our neighborhoods have (on *parking* and *noise*, for example) will always be taken into consideration.

New Tennis Regulations

By Matt Fink, Dorset Avenue



New Tennis Regulations

At its meeting on **June 4**, the Council adopted **new regulations** to govern use of the **Somerset tennis courts**. The new regulations are **shorter, simpler, and easier** to understand than the previous ones. The regulations reflect the work of an **ad hoc group** of residents, and suggestions made by residents in response to a **survey** and at a **special meeting**. The new regulations can be found on the **Town website**, posted at the **tennis courts**, and on the **weekly e-blast**.

In a nutshell, the regulations:

- **Require** that in order to play a resident must post a tennis identification card in a slot on the entrance gate. Cards may be obtained at the Town Hall for an annual fee.
- **Permit** a resident to make a reservation up to three days in advance.
- **Permit** a resident to make one reservation a day.
- **Permit** two residents in the same household to make reservations on the same day.
- **Make** it easier for children to have group lessons after school.

The tennis courts are a **great asset** to the Town of Somerset. The courts **operate without** a manager or staff. The courts function well because residents **voluntarily** follow rules and tennis etiquette. The new regulations should improve this voluntary system, though not, **unfortunately**, our tennis games.

Sidewalk from page 3



No Reforestation Plan.

buffer would not allow for a **reforestation plan**. According to the **Little Falls Watershed Alliance**, almost **three-quarters** of an acre would be **paved over** by the proposed sidewalk. Our Town's PNRC, chaired by **Patty Friedman**, is opposed to the project.

To date, the Council has not taken a position on the proposed sidewalk; however, there will be a **public hearing** at the **July meeting** and the Council will consider taking a position at that time.

Please email the Council at council@townofsomerset.com with your questions, comments and concerns.

Stormwater from page 1

The **main provisions** of the ordinance require stormwater management plans for any construction that involves either the **replacement** of an existing home, or an **expansion** of more than **400 square feet** of impervious surface (*e.g., a roofed structure, concrete parking area, etc.*) In those cases, the plan must ensure that runoff **will not** be increased (either to **neighboring** properties or to the **street**) and that any additional runoff can be contained onsite for storms up to a **3-month event**. For a home replacement (but not an expansion), **additional steps** to reduce runoff must be taken to the extent practicable.

The draft ordinance would also require homeowners to prevent any increase in runoff from an expansion of a **driveway**, or **installation** of an **impervious driveway** where the surface had previously been pervious (*e.g., a gravel driveway*). Replacement of an existing impervious driveway with no increase in size **would not** require a plan. The draft ordinance would also prohibit any new direct piping of stormwater to the street.

The ordinance is similar to one currently being used in the Town of **Chevy Chase**. The TOCC has reported that there have been few appeals under that ordinance, so it appears to be workable. The draft ordinance is also similar in effect to one currently used by the **County**, except that the County ordinance **does not** explicitly prohibit additional runoff to a street.

There will be a discussion of the draft ordinance at the July Council meeting.



Stormwater

Notes From The Manager's Desk

By Rich Charnovich, Town Manager



Town Hall Top 10 List

Each month I will attempt to do my best to inform our residents on **10 important issues** I currently see happening within the Town of Somerset. As always, if anyone has any questions regarding Town operations, please feel free to contact me at Town Hall at manager@townofsomerset.com or 301-657-3211.

July 4 Event



Once again this year we will be celebrating the **July 4th holiday** at the **Somerset Town Hall**. Please view the flier in this month's Journal for further information.

Pool Guest Fees



Pool Guest Fees

It is highly **recommended** that **pool guest fees** be paid in **advance** at the Town Hall. **No cash** will be exchanged for guest fees at the pool, **only checks**. Guest fees will remain at **\$2 per guest** for this pool season. Please contact the Town Hall with any questions.

Pepco Reliability Project Update



On **August 1, 2011**, **Pepco** officials appeared at a **public hearing** before the **Somerset Town Council** to discuss a **permit** to perform work to improve the **reliability** of electric service within the Town. The permit to allow this work was **adopted** unanimously by resolution by the Town Council on **September 6**, and **approved** by the **Mayor** on **September 7, 2011**. Since that time, Pepco has **replaced** poles, wires and other equipment; **installed** new devices to allow its equipment to automatically detect outages and redirect electricity; and **trimmed** trees in the Town. Pepco's **Reliability Enhancement Plan** for Somerset calls for the **replacement** for several more spans of wire. The company plans to complete its work in **July**.

Public Safety Info

Please report all **suspicious persons** and **vehicles** immediately to the **Police** at 301-279-8000 or 911. This would include **solicitors** going door to door who appear to be suspicious. **Never** let a suspicious person **into your home**. Also, please keep your **car doors** and **houses locked** at all times when left unattended. **Reminder: Free home security** surveys by Officer **Denise Gill** by appointment at 240-876-1277 to **assess security risks** of your residence. Here are some **safety recommendations** for those of you who do a lot of **walking** for either work or leisure:

- **Walk briskly**, with your head up, eyes scanning, and alert to your surroundings.
- **Avoid using** ear buds or headphones, and avoid talking on a cell phone while walking.

- **Walk in groups** whenever possible.
- **Trust your instincts**; if someone makes you feel **uncomfortable**, avoid them by changing your direction and increasing your pace; go directly to a well-lit public place if possible.
- **Call the police** immediately and report any suspicious person or circumstance.

Cautious Driving Reminder

Now that the **summer months** are here, please make sure that you make every effort to **drive cautiously** through Town, since **children** will be out and about **playing** and enjoying the nice weather. Also, it is important for children to be **instructed** to be very careful if playing on the Town streets. It is best to **limit** or **not allow** playing in the streets, but if they do, they must be very careful to be mindful of motorists.

Construction Noise Amendments Passed

The Town has recently adopted **amendments** in relation to its construction activities noise restrictions. A **full copy** of the **Ordinance** can be obtained by contacting **Town Hall**. Here is a summary of the Ordinance:

- **Weekdays (Non-Holidays)**
No construction activities shall commence prior to **7:00 a.m.** and all construction activities shall end no later than **7:00 p.m.**
- **Saturdays**
No construction activities shall commence prior to **9:00 a.m.**, and all construction activities shall end no later than **7:00 p.m.**

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Council Meeting Actions

The Town Council met in regular session on June 4, 2012. The Council took the following actions:

1. Approval of the May 7, 2012 Council Meeting Minutes.
2. Approval of a Resolution amending the Bank Signature Cards to replace Alan Proctor with Cathy Pickar.
3. Approval of the installation of a replacement HVAC Unit at 4515 Dorset Avenue.
4. Approval of the installation of a replacement HVAC Unit at 5504 Surrey Street.
5. Approval of a revised site plan for the location of a heat pump at 5522 Uppingham Street.
6. Approval of a contract with Camp Summerset for the 2012 Sessions.
7. Approval of a contract with NB Health and Fitness, L.L.C. DBA Wet Yet? Water Fitness. Approval of revised tennis court regulations as recommended by the Ad Hoc Tennis Committee.
8. Approval of the FY13 Council Liaison assignments as listed in this Journal issue.
9. Approval of alternative Council Meeting dates for FY13. Meeting in September will be on September 4, 2012.
10. Approval of a Resolution adopting new formatting for the Town Code as provided by the Town Attorney's office.
11. Approval of the appointment of Council Member Barbara Condos to the Montgomery County Friendship Heights Transportation Management District Advisory Committee, replacing the position formerly held by Bill Farley.
12. Approval of PCO 82 for the Pool House Renovation Project in relation to storm drain work.
13. Approval of PCO 83 for the Pool House Renovation Project in relation to re-piping the planters near the patio area.
14. Approval of the leasing of a new color copy machine for the Town Hall as recommended by the Town Manager.
15. Approval of the Mayor's nomination of Richard Charnovich as the Clerk-Treasurer for FY13 as per the Town Charter.

In addition to the items approved at the Regular Meeting, the Council also heard the Financial Report from the Town Manager, Richard Charnovich. The Council and Mayor discussed the final planning details for the June 9, 2012 pool house celebration. George Wyeth, Chair, Environmental Committee, discussed the stormwater management plan the Environmental Committee is working to develop.

Mayor Slavin had his monthly report available at the meeting for anyone who wanted to review it. During the Mayor's report, a discussion also took place in relation to the status of a fence located at 5535 Warwick Place.



By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

History was made at the **Pool House celebration** recently with the debut of a **Town Anthem** composed by our own Council Member **Cathy Pickar**. Lyrics were inspired by Mayor Emeritus **Walter Behr** (Grantham), and the **Meddin Family** (Dorset). The Council Member led us as a group as we learned the words and then sang this *beautiful song*, which is presented at the end of this article. I look forward to hearing it at many Somerset occasions in the future.

We had a very nice attendance at the **Pool House celebration**. Thanks to Administrative Assistant **Nicole Ventura** and Town Manager **Rich Charnovich** for the tremendous job they did in *planning* the event down to the last detail. It was also my great honor to present a *certificate of appreciation* to former Council member **Alan Proctor** for his amazing leadership as **Contract Officer** for this large project. I also read a *message* from the Proctors' close family friend, former **Maryland** Lieutenant Governor **Kathleen Kennedy Townsend**, on whose behalf I presented Alan with a **crystal shamrock** in recognition of his efforts. After that was done, I announced to everyone's delight that the *newly installed* bench at the **entrance** to the pool site is to be dedicated to the former Council Member, so current residents and generations to come will be aware of his contribution to the Town. We will have a *formal ceremony* in Alan's honor later this summer.



From the left: Ariana Kelly, Mayor Jeffrey Slavin and Brian Frosh on Bike-to-Work day, Friday, May 18.

The **annual 4th of July celebration** is just around the corner and this year's Honorary Chairs **Dennis and Diane Horn** (Surrey) have been *hard at work* this month to ensure that this year's **Independence Day** event is the best one ever, featuring a lot of *home-grown* talent.

As many know, both of the heavily used local **Post Office** locations on **Wisconsin Avenue** and **Arlington Road** have *closed recently*, and a **new station** has opened at **6800 Wisconsin Avenue**. There have been *many complaints* about the lack of **parking** there and, as a result, Congressman **Chris Van Hollen** has intervened. We hope he will be successful soon. In the meantime, we still have a local Post Office in **Friendship Heights** (with limited parking) and some have started to use the *little-used* outpost in **Chevy Chase Village** on **Connecticut Avenue**. We are also fortunate that for the time being, the **mailboxes** in Town that the Postal Service had *threatened* to remove are still with us, thanks to the Congressman. The Service is *monitoring* the amount of mail in these boxes so I encourage everyone to make *frequent deposits*.

We were saddened to learn earlier this month of the *death* of longtime Uppingham Street resident **Maury Atkin**, who *passed away* after a brief illness at the age of **94**. **Maury** and his wife **Flora**, who had been married **70 years**, were very popular here and continued to attend events in Town and visit with Somerset friends frequently even after their move to the **Maplewood Community** a few years ago.

Most of the **Council** and our **Town Manager** will be traveling to **Ocean City** this month to attend the **annual Maryland Municipal League (MML) Convention**, which is the *most important* municipal gathering in the **State**. There will be a number of *informative seminars* to attend (many on the hottest topics of the day), a *tradeshow* to walk around, and *networking* meals. Over the years, the Council and I have gained an incredible amount of *knowledge* at these conventions, and have gotten to know in person many of the **State officials** with whom we are required to interact. Although the convention is a lot of work, I believe they have *helped us* do our jobs in a better, more *professional fashion*. Our League is a *first-class* operation. I regret that I will be *missing* this one for the first time since I was elected in **2002**, since I will be in **Israel**, but I know the Council will provide an extensive briefing upon my return.

It was my pleasure to participate in the MML "If I Were Mayor, I Would" Essay Contest Award Ceremony in **Annapolis** in late **May**, and to see **Uppingham Street** 4th Grader **Alison Mills** (Council member **Franny Peale's** daughter) receive her plaque. Alison is the *second Somerseter* to receive this prestigious honor and I hope there will be more in the future!

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I also want to report that I traveled to **Newark, New Jersey** the other day for coffee with Mayor **Cory Booker**, and was **impressed** with the changes he has been making in that **radically** changing city. I was fascinated that many of the types of issues Mayor Booker has with residents in a municipality **hundreds of times larger** than ours are not that dissimilar to what the Council and I are required to deal with. My meeting was quite a learning experience, and I will pass on this **leadership knowledge** to our own elected officials.

Somerset Anthem

?, ? and Pickar Pickar

Piano

4

C⁶ C⁶ Dm⁷ F/G

In the sha dow of our na-tion's home, there lies a spe-cial place.

Pno.

6

F⁶ Em⁷ F⁶ Fm/A^b

neigh-bors live 'neath no - ble trees and friends are made, we won't for-get, we

Pno.

8

C⁶/G Am⁷ Dm⁷ F/G C⁶

call it home, this spe - cial place, our Town of So - mer - set.

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Town Anthem composed by our own Council Member Cathy Pickar. With lyrics inspired by Mayor Emeritus Walter Behr (Grantham), and the Meddin Family (Dorset).

- **Sundays**

Construction activities are **prohibited** unless it is interior work that cannot be heard by neighbors.

- **Holidays**

Construction activities on a **holiday weekday** or a **holiday Saturday** are **limited** to the hours of **9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

- **Lawn Maintenance** activities that involve the use of **power equipment** are permitted on **non-holiday weekdays** between the hours of **8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.**, with the **sole exception** that lawn maintenance work that involves the use of power equipment is also permitted on non-holiday weekdays between the hours of **7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.** if only **one piece** of power equipment is used.

- **Lawn Maintenance** activities that involve the use of **power equipment** are permitted on **weekends** and **holidays** between the hours of **9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.**



HVAC Unit Permit Required

HVAC Unit Permitting

A fact I don't think many residents realize is that a Town permit is required if you are going to **install** or **replace** any type of **HVAC unit** for your home. **Noise level requirements** must be met for these units as well for the **protection** of your neighbors. Please contact the **Town Hall** or visit the **Town website** for specific requirements for the installation of HVAC units. The Town Council has recently adopted an **Ordinance** that now permits the **emergency installation** of HVAC Units. Please contact the Town Hall for further details.

Private and Town Tree Removal Process

This is just a reminder that the **Town of Somerset** must **approve** any trees to be **removed** within the Town, whether they are **publicly** or **privately** owned. Please make sure that you contact the **Town Hall** to obtain a permit in advance of removing any trees from your property. **Violators** of this Ordinance are subject to **fines** in accordance with the **Town Code**.



Gator Bag On Newly Planted Town Trees

Gator Bags On Newly Planted Town Trees

You may have noticed **Town staff** have attached **gator bags** to fairly new Town **planted** trees. Gator bags are **green plastic bags** that hold water. The staff goes around Town and fills them, but if you notice the bag is **empty** and you are outside watering, please help us by filling them. **Thank you in advance for your consideration.**

E-Journal Sign-up

We would like to urge as many residents as possible to receive their **Town Journal** electronically. As a **Tree City USA** and a **PLANT Maryland Community**, Somerset wants to **reduce** its impact on the environment by encouraging residents to receive their copy of the Town Journal by **email**. If you are not currently on the **Town Journal email distribution list** and would like to receive an **electronic copy**, please contact Town Hall at **manager@townofsomerset.com** or at **301-657-3211**.

Committee Liaison Assignments And Other Town Representation For 2012

Responsibilities for the respective Committees are listed below. If you are interested in participating in any of the Town Committees, please contact the Mayor or one of the Council Members.

Assignments By Council Member:

Barbara Condos:

- Pool Committee
- Transportation Management District
- *Swim Team Committee alternate*
- *Tennis Committee alternate*

Franny Peale:

- Swim Team Committee
- Batting Cage Committee
- *Ad hoc Communications Committee alternate*
- *Pool Committee alternate*

Cathy Pickar:

- Ad hoc Communications Committee
- Tennis Committee
- *Audit Committee alternate*
- *Parks and Natural Resources Committee alternate*
- Check Signing

Marnie Shaul:

- Ad hoc personnel Committee
- Audit Committee
- Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights
- Environmental Committee
- Check Signing

Barbara Zeughauser:

- Ad hoc personnel Committee
- Parks and Natural Resources Committee
- Bethesda Fire Board
- *Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights alternate*
- *Environmental Committee alternate*
- Bank Statement Reviewer

Unassigned:

- History Committee
- Montgomery County Civic Federation
- Newcomer's Committee
- Security Committee
- Special Events Committee
- Western Montgomery County Citizens Advisory Board

Pool Rules



By Barbara Condos, Council Member liaison to Pool Committee

The **first full season** at our **new pool facility** is off to a great start. These are just a few reminders about pool rules.

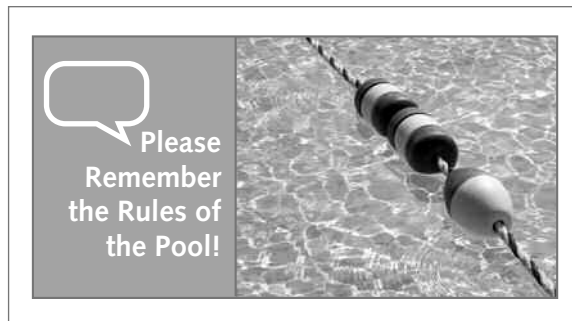
- **Please remember** no breakable containers are allowed within the facility. This includes the only **three areas** where eating is permissible—the **patio**, the **upper terrace** and the **rear grassy picnic area**, as well as the kitchen. **Do not bring wine or beer bottles, condiment jars, casserole dishes, plates, platters and so on** to the pool. It is almost impossible to **clean up** broken glass; remember most pool users are **barefoot**. If broken glass is found in the pool, the pool must be **drained, cleaned and refilled**—a process that takes about a week.
- **Please remember** to bring your **key cards** when you come to the pool. It makes **check-in** easier. If you can't find your key card, **replacements** are available at the **Town Hall** for a charge of \$5.
- **Remember that** the pool is a **shared facility**. The pool is open to the **entire community** during pool hours with the **exception** of

swim team meets and some **swim team events**. Let's make sure that **everyone** can enjoy the facility whether they are there just to **swim**, to have **dinner**, or **entertain** friends.

- **When you come to the pool** for a **meal** or with a **party group**, please clean up after you finish. There are **trash cans** and **recycle bins** placed around the pool. A **pizza box** is recyclable; a pizza box filled with **unwanted slices** of pizza is not. **Pool closing** time is when everyone must be out of the facility. Please gauge **clean-up** time so you exit by closing. After patrons leave, the **guards** have **half an hour** to clean the **dressing/bath rooms, lobby, straighten the pool deck, empty trash and recycle containers and secure the facility**. The guards are not there to clean up after your meals.

There are **many people** who are at the pool as **guests**. Remember that you are **responsible** for making sure your guests are **aware of** and **follow** our pool rules.

The safety of everyone at the pool is the top concern of our managers and staff.



Lock Your Cars! Lock Your Cars! Lock Your Cars!

By Birdie Pieczenik, Chair, Security Committee

To emphasize the message I have been sending for a long time, please listen to Captain David Falcinelli, Commander, Bethesda 2nd Police District:

“During the past few weeks, over **45 vehicles** were reported as being entered overnight. Additionally, at least **two cars** were **stolen** because the homeowners **left the keys in the cars**. To date, there has been **no evidence** to suggest that force was used to enter any car.

Two 17-year-old juvenile males from **Silver Spring** were **arrested**. Additionally, a **20-year-old** female from **Bladensburg** and a **19-year-old** male from **Hyattsville** were also **arrested** . . . evidence was recovered linking this group to **recent thefts**, as well as to the recovery of two of the **stolen cars**.

While I am **confident** that the group was responsible for most of the **recent thefts**, there will be more groups to follow . . . I need everyone to . . . **follow these very simple rules:**

- **Remove all** valuables and anything that looks to be of **value** from your car or remove them from **plain sight**. These thieves are **looking** into your cars **first** to see if there is anything of value, and then **trying** the doors. Force **is not** usually used because it makes noise and draws attention to their activity.
- **Lock your doors** this means **car doors, house doors, garage doors** and also **your windows**. Do not make it easy for these criminals to ply their trade.
- **Never, ever, ever leave your car keys** in your car. It may be convenient, but these thieves will **take your car** if you provide the means and most of the time you will never see it again, at least in the same condition.
- **Always call the police** if you see or hear anything **suspicious** late at night. If it's not a normal occurrence for your neighborhood, let us know right away. Oftentimes, it is your call that leads to the arrest.”

Thank you, Captain Falcinelli!



Never, Ever, Ever Leave Your Car Keys In Your Car.

Permits Granted



Fence Permit

4507 Cumberland Avenue, **6-ft treated pine** stockade fence.

Storage Unit Permit

4805 Falstone Avenue, **freight trailer** to be used for moving purposes.

Tree Removal Permit

5514 Uppingham Street, **Red Oak**, tree was hazardous and needed to be removed.

Wall Permits

5510 Trent Street, **5-ft high concrete retaining wall** with brick impression

5710 Warwick Place, **mortared stone garden** and trough wall in rear yard.

5712 Warwick Place, **mortared stone garden and** trough wall in rear yard.

Trees

Dr. Tolbert Feather, Town Arborist, has recommended that we remove the following Town Trees:

- **4603 Dorset Avenue Tree #179.**
Littleleaf linden 18” diameter at 4.5 feet above ground is dead.
- **4721 Dorset Avenue Tree #201.**
Littleleaf linden 6” diameter at 4.5 feet above the ground has sparse foliage and decay in the crown.
- **4910 Dorset Avenue Tree #258.**
Norway maple 20” diameter at 4.5 feet above ground is more than 50 percent dead.

Permission to perform the work is on the **Town Council Agenda** for the **July 2, 2012 Meeting**.

Preliminary Agenda

Regular Town Council Meeting

Somerset Town Hall – Monday, July 2, 2012 – 7:30 p.m.

The Somerset Town Council will meet in regular session on Monday, July 2, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at the Somerset Town Hall. Agenda updates are posted on the Town website: www.townofsomerset.com

Regular Meeting of the Town Council

Council Work Session – 7:00 p.m.

Council Meeting Convenes – 7:30 p.m.



Council Members: Barbara Zeughauser, Cathy Pickar, Marnie Shaul, Franny Peale, Barbara Condos

1. **Comments:** Public Comment Period – 7:30 p.m.
2. **Motion:** To approve the June 4, 2012 Regular Council Meeting Minutes – 7:50 p.m.
3. **Discussion:** Town Manager's July Financial Report – 7:55 p.m.
4. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval of a Building Permit and Dumpster Permit application as submitted by Nicolas Lloreda and Alessandra Tassara, 4813 Falstone Avenue – 8:00 p.m.
5. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval of an emergency HVAC Unit installation on an application submitted by Robert and Emily Wurtz, 4907 Cumberland Avenue as recommended by the Town Inspector – 8:15 p.m.
6. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider adoption of a Resolution taking a position regarding the proposed State Highway Administration Sidewalk Project on Northbound Wisconsin (State Road 355) from MD Road 191 (Bradley Lane) to Grafton Street – 8:20 p.m.*
7. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider adoption of a Resolution taking a position regarding County Council President Roger Berliner and Council Member Marc Elrich's Bill 16-12 on trees and utility vegetation management – 8:35 p.m.*
8. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider adoption of a Resolution taking a position regarding the proposed Zoning Text Amendment before the County Council to relax the standards for accessory apartments – 8:50 p.m.*
9. **Discussion:** To consider approval of the allocation of funding for a joint project with Montgomery County for drainage and curb related improvements on Falstone Avenue and a small portion of Surrey Street – 9:05 p.m.
10. **Public Hearing/Motion:** To consider approval of the removal of the following Town trees as recommended by the Town Arborist: – 9:20 p.m.*
 - 4603 Dorset Avenue: Tree 179, Littleleaf linden 18" diameter
 - 4721 Dorset Avenue: Tree 201, Littleleaf linden 6" diameter
 - 4910 Dorset Avenue: Tree 258, Norway maple 20" diameter
11. **Discussion:** Introduction of a Stormwater Management Ordinance as recommended by the Town Environmental Committee – 9:25 p.m.*
12. **Discussion:** Pool House Update – 9:30 p.m.
13. **Discussion/Motion:** To consider adoption of the official Town of Somerset Anthem – 9:35 p.m.*
14. **Discussion:** Mayor's Report – 9:40 p.m.
15. **Adjourn** – 9:45 p.m.

Key

Public Hearing Item: Agenda item where public comment is permitted.

Discussion Item: Agenda item limited to discussion among the Council, Mayor and Town Staff.

Motion Item: Agenda item requesting action, limited to Council discussion.

Comments: Opinions and Questions from Town residents.

Please note the Public Comment Period at 7:30 p.m. may run less than 20 minutes. Residents who wish to be present for a particular Agenda item are advised to arrive 20 minutes ahead of the item's scheduled discussion time since discussions sometimes run ahead of schedule.

Items marked * have related articles inside this issue of the Town Journal.

This is a preliminary Agenda prepared to meet the Journal press deadline, which typically is two weeks prior to the next Town Council meeting. During this period, there will likely be changes to the timing of items, and some items may be added or deleted. Please contact Rich Charnovich at Town Hall if you are interested in what has been added, or consult the bulletin board on the Town Hall porch or the Town website for the most up-to-date Agenda.